

CLAIMS

1. A method of preparing a heat-treated product, comprising the sequential steps of:
 - a) providing a raw material which comprises carbohydrate, protein and water
 - b) treating the raw material with an enzyme capable of reacting on asparagine or glutamine (optionally substituted) as a substrate, a laccase or a peroxidase, and
 - 5 c) heat treating to reach a final water content below 35 % by weight.
2. The method of the preceding claim wherein the enzyme capable of reacting on asparagine or glutamine (optionally substituted) as a substrate is an asparaginase, a glutaminase, an L-amino acid oxidase, a glycosylasparaginase, a glycoamidase (peptide N-glycosidase) or
- 10 a peptidoglutaminase.
3. The method of the preceding claim wherein the asparaginase has an amino acid sequence which is at least 90 % identical to SEQ ID NO: 2 (optionally truncated to residues 27-378, 30-378, 75-378 or 80-378), 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 or 13.
4. The method of any preceding claim which further comprises treating the raw material
- 15 with an oxidoreductase capable of reacting with a reducing sugar as a substrate.
5. The method of the preceding claim wherein the oxidoreductase capable of reacting with a reducing sugar as a substrate is a glucose oxidase, a pyranose oxidase, a hexose oxidase, a galactose oxidase (EC 1.1.3.9) or a carbohydrate oxidase which has a higher activity on maltose than on glucose.
- 20 6. The method of any preceding claim wherein the raw material is in the form of a dough and the enzyme treatment comprises mixing the enzyme into the dough and optionally holding.
7. The method of any preceding claim wherein the raw material comprises intact vegetable pieces and the enzyme treatment comprises immersing the potato pieces in an aqueous solution of the enzyme.
- 25 8. The method of any preceding claim wherein the raw material comprises a potato product.

9. A polypeptide having asparaginase activity and having an amino acid sequence which is at least 90 % identical with SEQ ID NO: 2 (optionally truncated to residues 27-378, 30-378, 75-378 or 80-378) or SEQ ID NO: 12.
10. A polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of the preceding claim.
- 5 11. A polynucleotide which encodes an asparaginase and which comprises a nucleotide sequence which is at least 90 % identical to the coding sequences of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 11.